

Assembly Bill No. 2025

Passed the Assembly August 15, 2002

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Passed the Senate August 12, 2002

Secretary of the Senate

This bill was received by the Governor this _____ day of
_____, 2002, at _____ o'clock __M.

Private Secretary of the Governor

└

CHAPTER _____

An act to add Section 49607 to the Education Code, relating to school counseling services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2025, Corbett. Educational counseling: master plan for pupil support services.

Existing law authorizes the governing board of any school district to provide a comprehensive educational counseling program for all pupils enrolled in the schools of the district.

This bill would require the State Department of Education to convene a voluntary working group, as prescribed, for the purpose of developing a master plan for pupil support services. The bill would require the department, in consultation with the working group, to perform specified duties, including, among others, developing a 5-year master plan for pupil support services, and would require the department to report on that master plan to the Legislature and the Governor by no later than January 1, 2004. The bill would provide that no more than \$65,000 may be used to implement the bill's provisions.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 49607 is added to the Education Code, to read:

49607. (a) The State Department of Education shall convene a voluntary working group for purposes of developing a master plan for pupil support services.

(b) The members of the working group shall include representatives from each of the following categories:

(1) Pupil support services experts, including, but not limited to, school counselors, school psychologists, school nurses, librarians, school social workers, and child welfare and attendance supervisors.

(2) Classroom teachers.

(3) School administrators.

(4) Classified school employees.

(5) Parents or guardians.



- (6) Pupils.
 - (7) School finance experts.
 - (8) Licensed mental health care providers.
 - (9) Pupil financial aid experts.
 - (10) Academic and learning support experts.
 - (11) Representatives from institutions of higher education that offer a credential in pupil personnel services.
- (c) Members of the working group shall represent the breadth of the categories described in subdivision (b) and shall be culturally, ethnically, and geographically diverse.
- (d) Members of the working group shall participate without compensation, but may receive reimbursement for expenses related to meetings, as determined by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- (e) The department, with the advice and assistance of the working group, shall perform the following duties:
- (1) Develop recommendations and findings, using any reports the working group may deem appropriate, including, but not limited to, the study conducted pursuant to Section 49605, and any findings and recommendations relating to counseling and pupil support that are developed as a result of the Joint Committee to Develop a Master Plan for Education-Kindergarten through University, for the establishment of a five-year master plan for pupil support services.
 - (2) Determine the appropriate pupil-to-school counselor ratios for elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools based on the results of the study conducted pursuant to Section 49605.
 - (3) Develop a five-year master plan for pupil support services to provide a design for offering incentives to schools to meet the pupil support services ratios determined pursuant to paragraph (2) by 2009. The master plan shall differentiate between elementary school, middle school, and high school pupil support services. The master plan shall include, but not be limited to, recommendations regarding all of the following:
 - (A) Possible sources of incentives for local educational agencies to meet the ratios for pupil support services, including, but not limited to, an analysis of the following:
 - (i) Capacity for recruiting and retaining credentialed student support personnel to work in the schools.
 - (ii) Training and professional development issues.



(iii) Recommendations for program standards.

(iv) Methods for assessing program quality and pupil outcomes.

(v) Linkages and collaboration with sources of pupil support outside of the schoolsite.

(B) The design and implementation of effective pupil support services and programs, including, but not limited to, requirements for guidance counselors to advise all pupils and parents or guardians on the importance of higher education, coursework designed to prepare pupils for higher education, and financial aid availability and requirements.

(f) The master plan for pupil support services shall consider and build upon the foundation developed by the Joint Committee to Develop a Master Plan for Education-Kindergarten through University with a view toward implementing a strategic plan for pupil support services.

(g) The department shall report on the master plan to the Governor and the Legislature by no later than January 1, 2004.

(h) The total amount of funds that may be used to implement this section shall not exceed sixty-five thousand dollars (\$65,000).



Approved _____, 2002

Governor

